

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

VW 11/30/06 Please insert the following text as separate paragraphs before line 1 on page 1:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following text before line 5 on page 1:

DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART

Please insert the following text as a separate paragraph before line 26 on page 9:

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following text before line 12 on page 10:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows an example of an apparatus that may be used to carry out the invention;

FIG. 2 shows a graph comparing the cleaning efficiency of various corks;

FIG. 3 shows the mechanical characteristics of corks under different cleaning conditions;

FIG. 4 shows the effect of a co-solvent on the reduction of microbial growth.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

VW 11/30/04 Application No. 10/089,162

Reply to Office Action of April 21, 2003

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 17, lines 17-21 with the following paragraph.

According to the invention, the said co-solvent is chosen for example from among water, aqueous solutions, alcohols, for example aliphatic alcohols from 1 to 5 C such as ethanol, methanol, butanol, ~~etenes~~ ketones such as acetone, and their mixtures.

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VW 11/30/06 Please replace the paragraph on page 14, lines ~~17-21~~ with the following paragraph.

The fluid used may for example be chosen among carbon dioxide; sulphur hexafluoride; nitrous oxide; nitrogen monoxide; light ~~alkanes~~ alkanes, for example with one to five carbon atoms such as methane, ethane, propane, butane, isobutene, pentane; alkenes such as ethylene and propylene; and some organic liquids such as methanol and ethanol; etc.

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